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Attorney Docket No. 01127/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Toshio ANDO et al
Serial No. : 09/803,448
Filed : March 9, 2001
For : SCANNING UNIT AND SCANNING
MICROSCOPE HAVING THE SAME
Art Unit : 2881
Examiner :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Submitted herewith is a copy of Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 11-126110 and a Form PTO/SB/08A listing the particulars thereof. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that the publication listed therein has been considered and made of record.

Japanese KOKAI Publication No. 11-126110 is identified at page 24, lines 5-8 of the present specification.

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF PERTINENCY

The disclosure in Japanese KOKAI Publication No. 11-126110 is relevant to the present claimed invention. This is understandable if Fig. 6 of the present application is compared with FIG. 2 of Japanese 11-126110 (embodiment 1 of Japanese 11-126110).

Thin leaf springs 20 and 24 in FIG. 2 of Japanese 11-126110 operate as a so-called elastic hinge. By moving a pair of actuators for driving, for example actuators for drive 16, along the Ly axis in synchronization with the pair, movable table 6 can

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S. Dianne Franklin

Dated: November 15, 2001

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

be moved along the Ly axis. In the same way, by moving a pair of actuators for drive 22 along the Lx axis in synchronization with the pair, movable table 6 can be moved along the Lx axis. In short, the movable device of FIG. 2 of Japanese 11-126110 can scan in X and Y directions.

In the system of the present U.S. application, an actuator scanning in the Z direction is attached to the center of movable table 6 of the movable device, which realizes scanning in the X, Y and Z directions. In addition, by moving a pair of actuators, which is the claimed feature of the present U.S. application, to the opposite side along the Z axis in synchronization with the pair, vibrations generated by scanning in the Z direction can be reduced ideally. This is not the case with the apparatus of Japanese 11-126110.

In view of the above, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the publication submitted herewith and make it of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas Holtz
Reg. No. 33,902

Dated: November 15, 2001

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman, Langer & Chick, P.C.
767 THIRD AVENUE - 25TH FLOOR
New York, New York 10017-2023
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
FAX No. (212) 319-5101
LH\DH/sdf
sdf/c:\d:\01\01127.ids